AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached drawings include changes to FIGS. 5 and 6. The sheets containing FIGS. 5 and 6 replace the original sheets FIGS. 5 and 6.

Approval of these changes to the Drawings is respectfully requested.

REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to FIGS. 5 and 6, the Title, the Specification and the Abstract of the application, and rejected claims 1-24. FIGS. 5 and 6, the Specification and the Abstract, the Title and claims 1 and 20 are amended herein, and new claim 25 is added. No new matter has been added.

Thus, claims 1-25 are pending and under consideration. The rejections and objections are traversed below.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS:

On page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to FIGS. 5 and 6 for having handwritten labels thereon. FIGS. 5 and 6 are amended herein.

Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to FIGS. 5 and 6 is respectfully requested.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 3 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Specification because the same did not contain descriptions of FIGS. 5 and 6. Pertinent sections of the Specification are amended herein.

Therefore, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

OBJECTION TO THE TITLE:

On page 5 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Title of the present application. The Title is amended herein to read, "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUGEMENTING GRAMMARS IN DISTRIBUTED VOICE BROWSING ENVIRONMENT TO CONTROL A CALL".

Therefore, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

OBJECTION TO THE ABSTRACT:

On pages 5 and 6 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Abstract of the present application. The Abstract section of the present application is amended herein.

Therefore, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

Claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated U.S. Patent No. 6,269,336 (Ladd).

Ladd is directed to interactive speech applications using a markup language based on recognition of speech inputs from a user using a single speech recognition unit. As shown in FIG. 3 of Ladd, an automatic speech recognition (ASR) unit (254) processes all speech inputs from users to determine whether a word or a speech pattern matches grammars or vocabulary stored in a database (244) or downloaded from a voice browser (see, col. 9, lines 26-38). For example, output signals representing a result of speech processing via the ASR unit (254) are routed to an application server (242) or a voice browser (250) to implement specific functions associated therewith (see, col. 8, lines 55-67 and col. 9, lines 35-38). That is, Ladd requires speech recognition via the ASR unit at the portal each time a user needs to retrieve information from an application server and requires use of the ASR unit even when the user is interacting with the application server.

According to the present invention, an application server is provided with an augmenting grammar set from a portal and the application server notifies the portal (i.e., requesting use of resources of the portal) when an input is recognized as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set based on speech recognition executed independent of the portal. For example, when a user utters the phrase "go to Hertz" to make a reservation to rent a car, the application server for Hertz® recognizes the phrase (i.e., without requiring speech recognition via the portal) based on augmentation of a speech recognizer at the application server for Hertz® by the portal. Accordingly, the portal of the present invention is not required to execute speech recognition on behalf of application server(s), thereby reducing connections and bandwidth required for the speech recognition system.

Independent claims 1 and 20 as amended recite, "augmenting the speech recognition system with an augmenting grammar set supplied by a portal" and "notifying the portal in response to an input which corresponds to the augmenting grammar set responsive to speech recognition executed independent of the portal." Similarly, independent claim 8 recites that the application server is provided with "a speech recognizer to receive an augmenting grammar set from the portal" and notifies "the portal in response to an input which corresponds to the augmenting grammar set."

The Examiner compares the PSTN (214), the carrier switch (218), the VRU client (232), the VRU server (234) and the database shown in FIG. 3 of Ladd with the portal and remote application server of the present invention to reject independent claim 17. However, each of these elements of Ladd are **within** the electronic network (206) or the communication node (212), which the Examiner equates with the portal to reject independent claims 1, 8 and 20. Unlike Ladd, the present invention includes "an application server" and "a portal" (claim 8) and causes the portal to be notified of an input that corresponds to an augmenting grammar set "responsive to speech recognition executed independent of the portal" (claims 1 and 20).

Independent claim 17 recites, "transmitting an augmenting grammar set from the portal to the remote application server", "breaking the connection between the call and the portal" and "notifying the portal when an input during the call corresponds to the augmenting grammar set". This enables use of resources of the portal when the remote application server recognizes that "an input during the call corresponds to the augmenting grammar set" (see, claim 17 and elements 8 and 15 in FIG. 3 of the present application).

The Examiner refers to col. 6, lines 37-65 of Ladd as teaching, "breaking the connection between the call and the portal" recited in claim 17. Ladd at col. 6, lines 37-65 refers to two different dialogue "paths" where user identity is requested when a user is not recognized; however, the speech recognition is executed via the communication node (212), which the Examiner compares with the portal of the present invention. Therefore, Ladd does not teach or suggest, "breaking the connection between the call and the portal", where the portal is not involved with speech recognition until the portal is notified "when an input during the call corresponds to the augmenting grammar set" (claim 17).

It is submitted that independent claims 1, 8, 17 and 20 are patentable over Ladd.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claims depending from independent claims are patentably distinguishable over Ladd. The dependent claims are also independently patentable. For example, as claim 3 and 12 recite, the present invention transfers "control of a call back to the portal after notifying the portal that the input corresponds to the augmenting grammar set" and "in response to an input being recognized as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set, control of the call is transferred from the application server to the portal", respectively. Ladd does not teach or suggest these features of claims 3 and 12.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 25 has been added to recite, "augmenting a first speech recognizer of an application server with a grammar set from a portal having a second speech recognizer". This enables the present invention to switch control of a call to the portal in accordance with detection of an input corresponding to the grammar set via the second speech recognizer of the application server."

It is submitted that Ladd is limited to a single ASR recognizing speech communications from the user and does not teach or suggest features recited in new claim 25.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 25 is patentably distinguishable over Ladd.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Oct. 17 ,20 05
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